DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

National Institutes of Health
National Library of Medicine
Bethesda, Maryland 20894

**The Once and Future Web:**
**Worlds Woven by the Telegraph and the Internet**

## Telegraph Office

A learning station that allows visitors to interact with a telegraph operator, learn Morse Code and send a coded message to a friend via email.


How it works:

- Visitors see a 19th-century telegraph office and an operator sitting at his desk reading a newspaper
- When the visitor touches the screen, the operator gets up, greets the visitor, and offers the choice to send a message or learn Morse Code
- After a short animated tutorial on Morse Code, the visitor can use a touchscreen key board to see and hear the Morse alphabet
- To send a message, visitor uses the keyboard to enter a message, which appears in English and Morse alphabet
- The operator takes the message, goes back to his desk, and sends it using a telegraph key
- The recipient of the message—sent via email—clicks on a link to have the Morse Code message decoded

Technology:

- Digital video production of telegraph office with set, props, wardrobe, and talent
- CPU: Power Mac G4 450 MHz (tower); 128 MB RAM; 20 GB Ultra ATA/66; DVD/CD-ROM player; ATI, Rage 128 PCI video display card MPEG-2 ready; 100 MB Zip drive
- Monitor: ELO 15" LCD, 1525L with USB. Three monitor cables including: power, video, and USB touchscreen cables.
- Speaker: Museum Tools *Secret Sound* parabolic speaker
- Amplifier: A-H300 Teac Integrated Amplifier with remote control
- Stereo audio cable: 1/8" stereo mini connector on one end of the cable, two male RCA connectors on the other end of the cable
- Programmed using Macromedia Director™, Cold Fusion, Oracle, HTML, and JavaScript
- Email software links to National Library of Medicine server and database